

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01  
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /099 W  
-----128242 281800Z /43

P 281652Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8131  
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 14752

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PEPR, MR, BE  
SUBJECT: ALGERIAN-MAURITANIAN MEETING IN KHARTOUM

REF: A) NOUAKCHOTT 2097, B) BRUSSELS 14144

1. THE MAURITANIAN AMBASSADOR TO BELGIUM AND EC, AHMEDOU OULD ABDULLAH, MET WITH US JULY 27 ON HIS RETURN FROM NOUAKCHOTT AND ASKED THAT WE RELAY TO AMBASSADOR KRYZA AND DEPARTMENT ADDITIONAL POINTS DEVELOPED SUBSEQUENT TO HIS JULY 24 MEETING WITH KRYZA (REF A).

2. AMBASSADOR OULD ABDULLAH SAID HE MET WITH HIS UNCLE, FOREIGN MINISTER LAGHDAF, AND GOT A FULL CONFIDENTIAL

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READ-OUT ON LAGHDAF'S MEETING WITH ALGERIAN PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE AT KHARTOUM. HE SAID LAGHDAF ACCIDENTLY ENCOUNTERED BOUMEDIENE AND SILMAN HOFFMAN, THE ALGERIAN OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR LIASON WITH LIBERATION MOVEMENTS INCLUDING THE POLISARIO, OUTSIDE OF PRESIDENT NUMAYRI'S OFFICE. ACCORDING TO LAGHDAF, BOUMEDIENE GREETED LAGHDAF WITH THE

SALUTATION, "HELLOMAURITANIAN; HOW ABOUT PEACE?"  
TO WHICH LAGHDAF REPLIED, "WE ARE SEEKING PEACE."  
AT WHICH POINT, THEY RETIRED TO NUMAYRI'S OUTER OFFICE  
AND CONTINUED THEIR CONVERSATION. BOUMEDIENE TOLD  
LAGHDAF THAT ALGERIA WANTS AN END TO THE "FRATRICIDE  
AND SUFFERING" IN THE SAHARA AND FOR THAT REASON ASKED  
THE POLISARIO TO MAKE A "GESTURE" TO THE NEW MAURITANIAN  
GOVERNMENT, WHICH WAS THE PRESENT TRUCE, WHICH  
BOUMEDIENE SAID COULD BE EXTENDED. ACCORDING TO  
OULD ABDULLAH, BOUMEDIENE THEN TOLD LAGHDAF THAT  
ALGERIA WAS READY FOR ANY MEDIATION BY INTERESTED  
COUNTRIES, MENTIONING BY NAME FRANCE, SPAIN AND  
SENEGAL BUT NOT THE U.S. OR SAUDI ARABIA. BOUMEDIENE  
ADDED THAT ALGERIA COULD NEVER ACCEPT A PERMANENT  
FRENCH MILITARY BASE IN MAURITANIA.

3. OULD ABDULLAH TOLD US THAT LAGHDAF REPLIED TO  
BOUMEDIENE THAT MAURITANIA WANTS AND NEEDS PEACE  
AND DOES NOT WANT TO KEEP FIGHTING IN THE SAHARA SINCE  
"WE ARE THE SAME PEOPLE." LAGHDAF TOLD BOUMEDIENE  
THAT MAURITANIA CANNOT MAKE A SEPARATE PEACE WITHOUT  
MOROCCO SINCE MAURITANIA GAVE MOROCCO ITS WORD OF HONOR.  
LAGHDAF SAID THAT MAURITANIA WOULD CONTINUE TO CALL  
ON THE FRENCH OR ANY OTHER COUNTRIES TO HELP IN  
THE SEARCH FOR PEACE.

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4. AMBASSADOR OULD ABDULLAH TOLD US THAT HE LUNCHEDED  
WITH THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR IN NOUAKCHOTT BEFORE  
RETURNING TO BRUSSELS AND STRESSED TO HIM THAT THE  
NEW MAURITANIAN GOVERNMENT NEEDS FRENCH ECONOMIC  
AND MILITARY HELP ESPECIALLY AT THIS CRITICAL MOMENT.  
OULD ABDULLAH SAID THAT HE TOLD THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR  
THAT MAURITANIA WANTS FRANCE AND SAUDI ARABIA TO  
PLAY A ROLE IN THE SEARCH FOR PEACE IN THE SAHARA,  
AND SUGGESTED TO HIM THAT THERE MIGHT BE AN APPROPRIATE  
ROLE FOR OTHER COUNTRIES LIKE THE UNITED STATES IN  
THE PEACE PROCESS. HE TOLD US THAT THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR  
REPLIED THAT PRESIDENTS CARTER AND GISCARD HAVE BEEN  
COORDINATING THEIR AFRICAN POLICIES AND HE SEES NO  
PROBLEM WITH A U.S. ROLE IN A "SECOND PHASE" OF A  
PEACE EFFORT. OULD ABDULLAH TOLD US THAT HE BELIEVES  
THAT THE FRENCH DO NOT WANT ANYONE BUT THEMSELVES TO  
HAVE ANY ROLE IN THE REGION. HE SAID THAT HE ASKED  
THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO CONVEY TO THE MOROCCANS  
THAT MAURITANIA WILL NOT DO ANYTHING ON THE PEACE  
FRONT WITHOUT MOROCCO.

5. AMBASSADOR OULD ABDULLAH STRESSED THAT MAURITANIA

URGENTLY NEEDS U.S. HELP IN THE SEARCH FOR PEACE AND  
THOUGHT THAT THIS PROCESS WOULD BE ADVANCED IF ASSISTANT  
SECRETARY MOOSE COULD STOP IN NOUAKCHOTT AT THE END  
OF HIS CURRENT TRIP.

6. OULD ABDULLAH TOLD US HE WOULD BE TAKING MAURITANIAN  
SPECIAL EMISSARY SECK MAME N'DIACK, NEW MINISTER OF  
EDUCATION (NOUAKCHOTT 2031) IN TO SEE FOREIGN MINISTER  
SIMONET AND EC COMMISSIONER CHEYSSON ON JULY 28.  
CHAMBERS

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Subject:** ALGERIAN-MAURITANIAN MEETING IN KHARTOUM  
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